

Construction of a Sluice in the Vettiya Channel.

3. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to construct a sluice with shutters at the place where the Vettiya Channel (item No. 218, New Works in the P. W. D. Budget Estimates for 1101) joins the Kulakkada river in the Mavelikara taluk, for preventing the too heavy and prolonged flooding of the paddy fields and the consequent loss of crops in Tulam and Edavam?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer reports that the matter is engaging the attention of his department and that an estimate for the work is being prepared.

Leave to Miss D. H. Watts.

4. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) why Miss D. H. Watts, the Lady Principal of the Women's College, went on leave to England;

(b) whether it is a fact that she has been cabled to return soon; and

(c) if so, whether there is any special reason for sending such a cable?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (a) For change and rest outside India.

(b) Yes.

(c) The cable was sent by the Director of Public Instruction with the permission of the Government, as the presence of Miss D. H. Watts, the permanent Principal, was found to be urgently necessary for consultation about several important matters arising in connection with the raising of the College for Women to the First Grade from the beginning of the next academic year, 1927-1928, and the opening of new classes.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date on which the cable was sent?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not remember the date.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know the date when the leave taken by her expired?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Under the original sanction, I think it will expire only in January.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether the member can say approximately how many days before the expiry of the leave that the cable was sent?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): More than 2 months.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether any advance money was sent?